

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

β1 The present application is a continuation application of copending U.S. Application Serial No. 09/319,857, filed August 19, 1999. Application Serial No. 09/319,857 claims priority from PCT/GB97/03392 with an international filing date of December 12, 1997 which, in turn, claims priority from GB Patent Application Serial No. 9625539.3, filed December 9, 1996, and published as UK Patent No. 2,320,277 B on October 10, 2001. --

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment prior to examination of this application is respectfully requested.

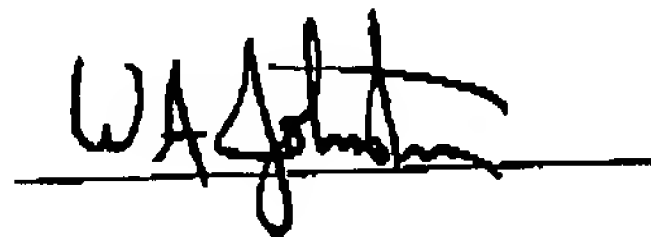
Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Preliminary Amendment.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and prompt notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

1/9/02



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Attachment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

Attorney Docket: 15-263C1  
Serial Number: 09/994,337

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

A paragraph has been amended on page 1, after the title and before the first line of text of the specification, in regard to cross-referenced applications. The paragraph has been amended as follows:

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